

March 17, 2001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Laurie Newman or Robin Podolsky 310 441 9084

KUEHL NAMES AUDREY PARKER WOMAN OF THE YEAR

State Senator Sheila James Kuehl has named Audrey Parker, a longtime activist and leader within the communities of disabled people in Southern California, as the 23rd State Senate District's Woman of the Year. Ms. Parker, a resident of Santa Monica, is a founding member of the newly formed Santa Monica Commission on Disabilities. She also serves on the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities and is the Secretary of the Board of the Westside Center for Independent Living. Ms. Parker has also worked for the City of Santa Monica, coordinating the city's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Legislative Women's Caucus began the tradition of honoring Women of the Year in 1987. Women from each state senate and assembly district are recognized by the Legislature for their remarkable accomplishments, commitment to civic participation and service to their communities.

"I am honored and delighted to celebrate the accomplishments of Audrey Parker," says Senator Kuehl. "In helping to lead the effort for the civil rights and quality of life of disabled people, she has made the 23rd State Senate District a better place for all of us. Her unflagging commitment to public service, her uplifting graciousness and her insightful leadership make Audrey a great role model and a worthy addition to the Legislature's stellar roster of Women of the Year."

-end-